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"OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY AND OUR BROTHER MAN."

TERMS: Two Dollars, in Advance.

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Maine Farmer.

S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.

Composts and "Formula" Manures.

While the interest which has of late been manifested as regards the combinations of certain chemical elements to form a special manure, will lead to good results, and to a more thorough study of the chemistry of manures and scientific agriculture generally—yet we think our readers need to be guarded against the idea that all their fertilizers are to be purchased of "authorized agents" of agricultural chemicals, and that farmyard manure is to be thrown away because it is not plant food. There are, we are happy to say, some old fashioned farmmen who yet believe in dung, as a good thing to have about planting time; and who are not yet convinced they ought to dump it over the bank and borrow money with which to purchase German potash salts. So, while from the new interest in this matter our farmers will learn the value of certain chemical fertilizers, we also hope they will become convinced of the great importance of husbanding the home resources and composting the farm manures with special fertilizers which may be purchased.

Maine Cheese Factories in 1875.

Notwithstanding there is a sensible depression in the cheese market at present, the factories in operation in this State the past year, have generally reported a satisfactory season. In a few instances, chiefly resulting from inexperience, factories have not proved so successful as was expected; but these cases will clearly be reversed another year, as the ignorance upon which they rested becomes out-grown. Returns from forty-one factories have been received by the Secretary of the Maine Dairymen's Association, and all the details concerning them will appear in his annual report, to be presented at the meeting at Newport, 15th, 17th inst. Below we give the names of these factories, with the number of cows furnishing milk, number of pounds of cheese made, and the price at which it has been sold. The largest number of cows to any one factory is 350, and the smallest is 55—the average being about 130. The largest amount of cheese made is 65,450 lbs., at the Kenduskeag factory; and the lowest, 4,462 lbs., by the Union factory. The statistics given below, show the large increase of a system which has been a part of our agriculture but five years, and indicate the proportion to which it has grown in this State.

Name of Company.

Name of Company.	Lbs. cheese.	Price, No. of cows.
East Sangerville.	41,000	25,000 124 15
Corinth.	52,000	25,000 124 15
Union.	40,000	25,000 124 15
South Paris.	40,000	25,000 124 15
North Turner.	40,000	25,000 124 15
West.	11,400	15 15
West Minot.	25,312	15 15
North Powell.	11,749	15 15
Southfield and Barnard.	11,121	15 15
Winterport.	15,121	15 15
Weston.	11,200	15 15
Penobscot River (Strong).	22,328	14
Morrill.	11,121	15 15
East Jefferson.	20,000	14
Dixfield.	23,440	15 15
Weston.	17,000	15 15
Exeter.	50,000	124 15
South and East Rumford.	21,000	15 15
Dixmont Mountain.	2,000	15 15
Caribou.	30,000	15 15
South.	21,000	15 15
South Newburg.	53,597	15 15
South.	21,000	15 15
Union.	14,000	14 15
Wiscasset.	14,000	14 15
Winthrop.	4,000	15 15
North Jay.	24,367	15 15
Enterprise and Avon.	7,000	15 15
Enterprise (West Auburn).	2,000	15 15
Caribou, Newell, and Newburg.	2,000	15 15
North Livermore.	23,400	15 15
Kenduskeag.	66,450	124 15

Penobscot County Farmers' Club.

The Penobscot County Farmers' Club is one of the live institutions of the State, and is doing a good work. It holds meetings once a month in different parts of the county, at which it discusses matters of vital interest to all farmers, and at which there is a large attendance. The meeting in January was held in the Town Hall at Enna, and continued during the day and evening, the subject of drainage being discussed in the forenoon, the winter care and feeding of stock in the afternoon, and the agricultural colleges and its advantages to the State in the evening. The discussions were all animated and interesting, and were participated in by some of the best farmers in the county. At the last meeting, held in the Feltwell School House, Bangor, occurred the annual election, and a discussion of the question Progressive Farming, opened by John Fog, Esq., of Enna.

Editorial Notes.

Mr. G. J. Shaw of Detroit, sends us a copy of the catalogue of his choice herd of thoroughbred Jerseys which he has been breeding for some years, all of which are recorded or eligible for record in the Register of the Am. J. C. Club. Several of these animals have won high prizes at our own and other State fairs, and parties intending to purchase should send to Mr. Shaw for a catalogue. He is also breeding pure Essex and Chester swine, and his Knox and Royal Tanner, 5 yrs. old, won the first prize at the New England Fair in 1875.

Almost the only good feature in the little pamphlet called the "Transactions of the Maine State Agricultural Society, Vol. I," is the table which gives the result of the races. This table not only shows the number of horses in each race, but the order of the horses at starting, and at closing, with the number of heats and time made. But even this hardly compensates for the great number of pages, the greater part of which are not of value or significance—the same being simply a record of articles entered for exhibition. Why are these of greater importance than "Discretionary, duplicate and Interceptor premiums," which have been "wed out and rejected"—that they should be printed?

At the opening of the spring term at the State College at Orono, six additional students were admitted to the Freshman class, making the number the largest ever received by the college since its opening, and the largest present Freshman class of any college in the State—notwithstanding the new classes at Bowdoin and Colby are larger than the average. The State College is furnishing an education to that large class of farmers' and mechanics' sons who are not able to enter institutions where a high rate of tuition is demanded—nor is it a competition at all with them, for they receive an education for different work and different professions, from those at this college. At a time when this new institution is just beginning to be appreciated by the people of the State as THEIR COLLEGE, what a pity that it should receive such begrimed aid from the Legislature, as that which it has just been granted!

Kansas Centennial Report.

One of the most noteworthy public documents of the past year is that published by the Board of Agriculture of the young State of Kansas. It is true the contents of the volume do not relate exclusively to its agriculture, but what is of equal importance, perhaps, in a new State having the resources of Kansas, is an exhibit of all her industries, business enterprises and capacities, with the State census for 1875. The important character of the volume may be better shown however, by a closer examination. It comprises 750 pages, printed on heavy, toned paper, and neatly bound. There are throughout the book a considerable number of excellent engravings, many which occupy a full page; a large map of the State, showing the railroad system, winter courses, land districts, boundary of congressional districts, geographical centres, and centres of population for the year 1860, 1870 and 1875—besides seventy-six colored maps and charts, a large number of which occupy an entire page. These maps are county maps, showing in each instance the boundaries, the Government and the Railroad roads, while the charts show the amount of the personal school fund; the amount and value of all the crops of the State; the ravages of grasshoppers in 1875; the average yield of the leading crops per acre in every county, the geology of the State, and

[Reported for the Maine Farmer.]
Maine Pomological Society.

Winter Meeting at Lewiston.

The third winter meeting of the Maine Pomological Society was held in the City Hall, Lewiston on Tuesday and Wednesday last week, in accordance with the public announcement. The attendance was not large, but the interest with which the various reports were received from various parts of the State, who during the meeting, earnestly engaged in the discussion, the complete results of which will be published in the "Pomologist." The meeting was called to order at 1 o'clock, P. M., the first business in order being the

Opening Address of Mr. Gilbert.

In accordance with an established custom, the meeting was opened by an address from Mr. Alfred Gray, who, in his report, which was devoted to a review of the condition of the State, and to a statement concerning the labor of the society, said: "The year 1875 has been in many respects quite exceptional, and the public interest in the work of the society has been very great. The meeting was called to order at 1 o'clock, P. M., the first business in order being the

Discussion.

In the discussion which followed the reading of Mr. Smith's essay, Friend Joseph Taylor, of Lewiston, said: "The year 1875 has been a year of great interest to the society, and to the State, and to the country over the crop was short, except in limited localities there was a fair crop. Peas were in abundance, and were in many cases so bountiful as to be a nuisance. Open air grapes were a failure emphatically. For three successive seasons this crop has been saved by bad weather. The small fruits made up a large part of the crop, and were in great demand, and were sold at a high price. A cherry grower would only have to sell his fruit, for it to be purchased at sight with cash at hand. This branch of the business was presented in a favorable light, and was a success." The author of the report, however, said: "The small fruits were more successful, the specialty in which this society is engaged, has not had much success. 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The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, March 4, 1876.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

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A subscriber desiring to change his post office address or to discontinue his paper, must communicate to the manager of the office to which it has previously been sent, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

Collectors' Notices.

Mr. C. S. Atwood is now calling upon our subscribers in Knox county.

Mr. J. P. Clark will call upon subscribers in Nova Scotia during the month of February.

Mr. S. N. Tabor will call upon our subscribers in East Kenton during the present month.

Particular Notice.

In accordance with the notice previously given, we have placed the names of subscribers to the Farmer who still continue in arrears for a series of years, in the hands of Daniel C. Robinson, Attorney-at-Law, of this city, for that, or collection, and legal notifications will soon be served upon them by him. Being still desirous, however, of saving our delinquent subscribers unnecessary cost and trouble, we have made arrangements to receive payment from them at this office, or through our agents, upon the terms herefore offered, at any time before legal demand has been actually made upon them by Mr. Robinson. Upon being served with such demand, they can only settle through him. Our delinquent subscribers will please take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Babcock and Bristow.

The jury in the case of General Babcock who was indicted for conspiring to defraud the revenue in connection with the St. Louis whiskey ring, after being out two hours, brought in a verdict of not guilty. After the court excluded the telegram, which passed between Babcock at Washington and the ring at St. Louis, from the evidence, no one expected a conviction and therefore no one was surprised at the result. These telegrams certainly pointed to Babcock as the agent of the conspirators in Washington, and until they are accounted for in some other way, the country will not fully acquit him. The jury, under the instructions of the court, were obliged to make up their verdict without reference to this testimony, and even if they believed his convicted by it, they were obliged to acquit him, unless, in their judgment, the other testimony was sufficient proof of his guilt.

It was proved that Joyce put five hundred dollar bill in each of two letters; that one of these was put into an envelope and directed it to General Babcock, and the witness testified that he put both of these letters into the mail box. This fact seems to have been established beyond a doubt, and was virtually admitted by the defense in the fact that they produced rebutting testimony from another letter carrier who swore that Joyce employed him to open the box and take out the two letters so directed and told him that they were mailed as a blind. There is a strong disposition by some to believe that the last testimony was manufactured for the occasion, and that the money was actually sent as stated by the first witness. It is also admitted that after the indictment was found against McDonald, General Babcock privately sent him letters under cover to Major Grimes. There is therefore no questioning the fact that Babcock was on intimate and confidential terms with the chief conspirators, whether he shared in the profits or not, and the telegrams went far to show that he was an accomplice in the frauds, and of course a sharer in the plunder.

If these telegrams are susceptible of any other explanation than that which appears upon the face, General Babcock owes it to the President and to the country to furnish the key, and also to produce the letters sent by him to McDonald. It is reported that he has demanded a court martial to investigate his case, and to this it so well enable him to case in his own behalf, a privilege not allowed in the court before which he was tried at St. Louis.

The verdict of the jury and the congratulation of his friends have not removed all suspicion of guilt from Babcock and until his innocence is fully established, he should not be permitted a place in the President's household.

We also have from Washington the gratifying intelligence that there is to be no change in the office of Secretary of the Treasury, notwithstanding the powerful influences which have been brought to bear upon the President to induce him to place Secretary Bristow in retirement. The uncompromising war which the Secretary has waged against defrauders of the revenue, and especially against the infamous whiskey ring, have made him host of friends in all parts of the country, and his retirement at the present time would be little less than a national calamity. He has endeavored to cover his department on strictly business principles, and has never surrendered to either the flattery or force of the speculating politicians. He has deemed it his duty to collect the revenue and protect the treasury, rather than enrich individuals or contribute to their aggrandizement. This course has made him bitter enemies as well as strong friends. Some of the former are very near the President and have great influence with him.

When Secretary Bristow declared war against the ring at St. Louis, he had the unquestioned support of the President, who directed him to let no guilty man escape. This position of the President, while it gave great encouragement to the friends of good government, caused consternation to the hearts of the guilty, who had felt themselves strong in their conspiracy against the revenue. Master's moved on, grimly; the leading conspirators were tried and convicted and the Secretary held firmly his portfolio against the fruitless assaults of his enemies. This condition of things continued until after the indictment of Babcock. His assailants now felt that the time had come when their demands for his removal would be headed, and for several days it appeared as though the President hesitated. It was reported that a coldness had sprung up between the President and his financial minister, but if this was so, it made no difference to the latter, who prosecuted the case to final judgment, and though one response has been acquited, no one will pretend to say that the circumstances did not justify the prosecution.

The President doubtless feels that he cannot afford to drive Bristow out of the Cabinet. In him we well know he has an able, honest and energetic officer; that the reforms which he has introduced are numerous and that they consist not of proclamations but what is far better, acts. He has elevated the whole tone of the administration as no other cabinet officer has before done it. To dismiss such an officer would be to say that his seal for reform is too pronounced and will invoke the charge that the President is displeased with exposure of frauds when his immediate personal friends are the victims. With the people at large, no one can be too faithful in the discharge of his duties nor too zealous in the pursuit of rogues who prey on the revenue; the people do not want Bristow removed, and will be highly gratified that he is not to

CITY NEWS AND GOSSIP. A. L. Getchell, late of the firm of A. L. and P. P. Getchell, has bought a farm in South Liberty and purposes to move there this spring.

The stone work for the new steam mill to be built in place of the one burned last fall, has already been contracted for.

Granite Hall was again crowded on the occasion of the meeting of the Reformers Sunday afternoon. The work seems to be moving steadily on.—A prize declamation of the scholars of the High School comes off at Meonan Hall, this (Thursday) evening. The admission fee is twenty-five cents, to go for the benefit of the Library.

The annual meeting of the Maine Central Railroad Company will be held in this city March 22d.—The city marshal made unsuccessful efforts after the adjournment of the Central House passed resolution to change a council of the Board of Industry in this city were taken last evening.

Rev. E. Allen is President of the C. M. Gray Society.—The Centennial roads were badly dented last week.—Rev. W. A. Drew has a manuscript sermon written on a broad sheet and bound, which he received many years ago from Rev. Martin Paris of Marshfield, Mass.—The members of the Legislature returned to their homes on Thursday, which was one of the coldest days of the season; the mercury did not rise above 8° during the day.—The Governor and Council adjourned Thursday the 14th of March.

The Legislature passed resolution in high terms, the man of the house during the session, just before leaving for their homes.—The entertainment given by the Berger Family and Sol Smith at Granite Hall last week, was one of the best we ever attended.

The Maine Baptist Board in session at this city, and the place for holding the State Convention.—The dry house connected with Wyman's steam mill took fire Tuesday evening. It contained quite a quantity of pine and black walnut lumber, which was badly damaged. The loss on building and fixtures is placed at \$1,200, with no insurance. The bells rang out a peal of alarm and the fire companies were soon on hand, and those with the medical agencies, soon subdued the flames.

Augusta State tax is \$18,321.52.—The sleighing was good Monday and Tuesday, and water skat was lively with country teams loaded with produce.

The Centennial Tea Party at Granite Hall on Monday and Tuesday evening proved a decided success, financially and otherwise. On Monday evening the hall was well filled and the evening was passed in a very social and enjoyable manner.

The audience was entertained with some excellent singing by Mr. Ward's oratorio class, and with other music, both vocal and instrumental.

The sale of centennial cups and saucers, fans and miniature chests of tea, presided over by young ladies in the costume of the revolution, was among the agreeable and profitable diversions of the occasion. These were a large and interesting display of relics of colonial and revolutionary times, some of them very rare. Benj. Davis, Esq. exhibited a sword with a black hilt and scabbard used at the battle of Lexington by his grandfather, Benj. Davis of Billerica, Mass., who was captain of a company of minute men; two glasses and two silver candlesticks, which it is said formerly belonged to and were used by Benjamin Franklin; a diminutive silver teapot and tray; half a dozen cups and a saucer and a table; and four of Raphael's cartoons, brought from England in 1744 by Captain John North, who was in charge at Fort Popham. L. W. Lithgow, Esq. contributed some very interesting family reliques, among them a bronze tea urn elegantly mounted with silver, a massive silver candlestick and a set of silver-handled dinner knives and a fork; a silver christening robe and an infant's dress, each over a hundred years old, were exhibited by the late Gen. Henry Sewall; also a camp-chest and sword carried by Gen. Sewall during the Revolutionary war. Mr. M. A. Chandler furnished a christening blanket, which was first used at the christening of his great-grandmother in England 161 years ago; also some old china, and silver candlesticks, which had been worn by the wife of the late Gen. Henry Sewall; also a camp-chest and sword carried by Gen. Sewall during the Revolutionary war.

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